

this option, and as a result it is exceedingly rare with only three uses to date.

In such cases, if a newly approved product has the same active ingredient as a previous product that received orphan designation and exclusivity because the FDA determined the original drug could not recoup its development costs, the newly approved product does not have to demonstrate the inability to recoup its development costs. It does not matter how much time has passed, or how much money the newly approved drug is predicted to make. This loophole creates the potential for abuses within the system, and it is not consistent with intent of the Orphan Drug Act.

Enacting H.R. 1629 will: fix this loophole in a narrow and targeted manner to prevent this abuse of the Orphan Drug Act; preserve incentives for development of products treating rare diseases and conditions; and ensure new treatment options come to market to treat OUD.

During this public health emergency, we need all the tools we can muster to fight this crisis. We should not tie one hand behind our back as the exploitation of this loophole would do.

More than 2.1 million Americans live with OUD, making this disease far from rare. This disease is a national public health emergency, and we need to close this loophole to ensure that all safe and effective treatments are available to fight this disease. Thank you again for your leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to help pass H.R. 1629.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Opioid Recovery, AIDS United, Aimed Alliance, Daniel's story, Center for U.S. Policy, Cover2 Resources, FORCE, Healthy Women, Maryland Heroin Awareness, Mother's Addiction Journey, No More OD's, Inc., NOPE Task Force, Prevention Action Alliance, Shatterproof, Tyler's Light, Young People in Recovery.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the Statement of Administration Policy issued by the Office of Management and Budget on May 17 of this year in support of this bill.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 1629—FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY ACT—REP. DEAN, D-PENNSYLVANIA, AND TWO COSPONSORS

The Administration supports House passage of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act. Orphan drug status is intended to encourage companies to develop promising drugs for rare diseases. Current law provides market exclusivity for drugs that treat any disease or condition which (A) affects fewer than 200,000 persons in the United States, or (B) affects more than 200,000 in the United States and for which there is no reasonable expectation that the cost of developing and making available in the United States a drug for such disease or condition will be recovered from that drug's sales in the United States. H.R. 1629 affects only drugs that qualify under the latter provision. Current law allows market exclusivity to be extended for a new version of the same drug without the drug developer having to show a lack of profitability for that new version as well. This legislation would close that loophole, requiring all drugs that obtain seven years of market exclusivity for conditions affecting 200,000 or more people to illustrate that they have no reasonable expectation of recovering R&D costs through U.S. sales.

The Administration applauds these steps to ensure Americans have access to high quality, affordable treatments.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman PALLONE for his support on this bill, and I urge all members to support its passage.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I would ask for support for this bill from both sides of the aisle. As I have mentioned in the past, it has passed the House previously.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 403, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

□ 1245

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3233, NATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL COMPLEX ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3237, EMERGENCY SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL TO RESPOND TO JANUARY 6TH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 409 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 409

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3233) to establish the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 3237) making emergency supple-

mental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), my friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Yesterday, the Committee on Rules met and reported a rule, House Resolution 409. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3233 to establish a National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act, under a closed rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security or their designees and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6 Appropriations Act, 2021, under a closed rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform or their designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Madam Speaker, it has been 133 days since an angry mob of insurrectionists tried to stop the certification of a free and fair election in America. The question before us today is this: What are we going to do about it?

Some of my colleagues on the other side want to sweep this dark chapter under the rug. Just last week, one Republican said the events of January 6 resembled a "normal tourist visit."

Madam Speaker, I was here presiding over the House on January 6. People died that day. Police officers were beaten and bloodied. America's Capitol, the symbol of our freedom and the

citadel of our democracy, was desecrated by a mob that wanted to invalidate an election. There was nothing normal about it.

It is not normal for a mob to break into this complex to try and hang the Vice President of the United States and harm other elected officials.

It is not normal for insurrectionists to try to stop the certification of an American election, one that judge after judge after judge said was free and fair. And it is not normal for Congress to respond by doing nothing. That is why we are considering the underlying legislation contained in this rule. It will establish a bipartisan 9/11-style commission to investigate what happened, a commission led not by politicians, but by experts.

Now let me say this plainly: A vote for this commission is a vote to make sure this never happens again. And I want to recognize the incredible work of the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Homeland Security in navigating this truly bipartisan deal. It is one that will keep the focus where it should be, solely on the events of January 6. And I look forward to the Commission's report at the end of the year. But the truth is, we cannot wait until then to fix what we already know needs fixing.

We need to upgrade the physical safety of this and other Federal buildings. We need to increase security in district offices, repay the National Guard for their service in the aftermath of the insurrection, and provide support to the overworked Capitol Police force that keep us all safe day after day.

Madam Speaker, this is how you respond responsibly to what happened 4 months ago, not with deflection or mistruths, but by taking action to protect not only this complex and those who work, serve, and visit here, but to also protect our very democracy, and making sure we never become a country that lets any angry mob decide who the next President will be.

Madam Speaker, only the voters can do that. We need to put the facts on RECORD here, to tell the truth and not spread lies. And the truth is that some on the other side are afraid to do anything around here because they are afraid, afraid of the truth, afraid because their leadership doesn't want to offend the ex-President and his big lie. That is all I could think of when I read the minority leader's deeply troubling statement opposing the January 6 commission.

Now, even though it is bipartisan, even though his own ranking member negotiated the deal, even though we gave him virtually everything he asked for during the negotiations, a Republican aide said it best when they were quoted in the press yesterday saying this: "I think Kevin was hoping that the Democrats would never agree to our requests; That way the commission would be partisan and we can all vote 'no' and say it is a sham operation, because he knows Trump is going to

lose his mind." Lose his mind over a bipartisan commission.

Madam Speaker, this moment is a choice, a choice between the truth or siding with the originator of the big lie. To my friends on the other side, I am asking you to lead with the courage of your convictions. Vote your conscience. Support this bipartisan commission, not just because it is the right thing to do, but support it out of respect, out of respect for your colleagues, for your staff and the support staff here, for the Capitol Police, but, most importantly, respect for this institution.

Now, I have cast some tough votes in my career, but casting a vote to establish a bipartisan commission to establish an insurrection is not one of them. I appeal to my colleagues to do the right thing, to lead with courage, and support this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts, Chairman MCGOVERN, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today's rule covers two items. The first item I will discuss is H.R. 3237, a supplemental appropriations bill intended to provide security funding for the Capitol complex, including funding for the U.S. Capitol Police, the National Guard, and other agencies that responded to the January 6 attack on the Capitol complex, as well as to provide funds to address the coronavirus throughout a variety of agencies Congress directly controls.

Although the process leading to this bill started out with bipartisan negotiations, unfortunately, no deal was reached. Instead of negotiating with Republicans on our counterproposal, as is typical in these discussions, Democrats walked away, once again, choosing to go it alone with the bipartisan bill before us today.

Madam Speaker, it is truly disappointing that Democrats were unwilling to continue to work towards an agreement with Republicans on a matter of this magnitude, and given that the Senate is in no hurry to take up this legislation, a few additional weeks of discussion could and likely would have led to a bipartisan product instead of a product destined for the legislative graveyard.

In the wake of the January 6 attack, I would hope that the majority would join with Republicans and choose to speak with one voice. Instead, like so many items in this Congress, the majority has insisted on its way or the highway. And today, they are doing it so again with this partisan bill.

House Republicans and even some Senate Democrats have concerns with this package. The bill creates a rapid response force with the D.C. National Guard. Any rapid response force intended to provide backup for the United States Capitol Police and to

protect the Capitol complex should be under the control of, and housed within Congress.

As a number of my colleagues mentioned during the debate in the Committee on Rules yesterday, housing these capabilities within the D.C. National Guard introduces the exact same concerns my friends on the other side raised in the aftermath of January 6, that Congress would be reliant on the executive branch to deploy this rapid response force.

Madam Speaker, I have deep concerns about putting this rapid response force under the control of any other entity, whether that is the government or the District of Columbia or the executive branch. I also have grave concerns about assigning this role to the military since this is undoubtedly a law enforcement function.

Further bipartisan and bicameral negotiations would have helped us to tailor the package to allay some of the serious concerns Members have, and at the same time would direct funds to where they are needed most.

Madam Speaker, I do know that what the House passes this week will not be the final word. And I am hopeful that in the not-too-distant future, the House will take up a different version of this package, one that has been negotiated with Republicans and that can pass the Senate, and I look forward to supporting that package before the President signs it into law.

Madam Speaker, our second item for today is H.R. 3233, a bill which establishes a national commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the United States Capitol complex.

I thank Ranking Member JOHN KATKO and Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON of the Committee on Homeland Security for their hard work in putting this legislation together. They took an unworkable and hyper-partisan proposal from the Speaker and turned it into a far better bill. I commend these two gentlemen for their desire to find bipartisan agreement.

However, I continue to have concerns with the legislation, concerns that could have been addressed if several of the amendments proposed at our Committee on Rules hearing would have been made in order.

□ 1300

On an issue this serious, the full House deserves the opportunity to debate and discuss areas of disagreement to see if we can find common ground. One of these areas of continued disagreement is that of scope, which remains too narrow in the proposal.

As the culture of our national politics has coarsened over the past several years, there has been a resulting broader wave of political violence in this country. This includes events like the 2017 domestic terror attack that targeted Republican Members of Congress at a baseball practice, and which would have been catastrophically worse but for the bravery of the U.S. Capitol Police officers who were present that day.

It includes the April 2 attack that killed U.S. Capitol Police Officer Billy Evans.

It includes the wave of violence, rioting, and property destruction that swept across the country last summer.

The commission should have specific flexibility to examine these events in their appropriate context.

I am also concerned about current language in the bill related to the ongoing work of law enforcement to bring the perpetrators of January 6 to justice. There are multiple investigations already underway. Several committees in both the House and the Senate have held, and will continue to hold, hearings on the topic.

The Architect of the Capitol is reviewing security vulnerabilities in the Capitol complex. As of yesterday, more than 450 people have been arrested in connection with the events of January 6, with at least 100 more arrests to come. All of these individuals will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law, as well they should.

Given each of these ongoing investigations and proceedings, I fear that adding yet another investigation from this proposed commission would only muddy the waters and make achieving due process and reaching justice all that much harder.

For that reason, I supported an amendment offered in the Rules Committee that would ensure that the ongoing and critically important work of law enforcement would continue unimpeded by this commission. For reasons I do not fully understand, this amendment was blocked.

Moreover, in my personal opinion, the commission would benefit from any revelations emerging from the investigations currently underway.

In addition, I note that it was 14 months between the events of 9/11 and the creation of the 9/11 commission. During that time, many facts emerged that informed the investigation of the commission. The same could be true here. As such, it makes sense to take more time prior to commencing an undertaking like this commission.

Though I have reservations about the bill, I have no reservations at all about the job Ranking Member KATKO and Chairman THOMPSON have done. I am hopeful that this bill will be improved further as it proceeds through the legislative process.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to this rule, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I also agree with the gentleman that Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO deserve an enormous amount of credit. They negotiated a truly bipartisan deal.

I have taken note of the letter that Minority Leader MCCARTHY sent to Speaker PELOSI of all the things he wanted in this deal, and he got virtually every one of them, all in this bi-

partisan deal. Now, all of a sudden, it is not good enough.

All of the concerns that my good friend raised are addressed in this bill. The commission could look at anything and investigate anything related to the violence that occurred here on January 6.

I mean, what happened here, isn't that a big enough deal to merit an investigation?

I don't get it.

In the bill, by the way, is language that is quite clear about how this commission will not interfere with any other ongoing investigations. In fact, very similar to the 9/11 commission, it will be informed by other investigations and complement other investigations.

So, again, I urge my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to vote for this commission, out of respect for the people who work here, out of respect for this institution, out of respect for our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, as the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, where the January 6 insurrection occurred, I was one of the first Members of Congress to call for and introduce legislation to create a 9/11-style commission to investigate the attack and to ensure that it never happens again. I strongly support the commission bill.

The supplemental security appropriations bill provides \$66.7 million to eliminate the long-running deficit in the Federally-funded D.C. Emergency Planning and Security Fund. That fund pays for the unique public safety and security costs D.C. incurs as the Nation's capital, and is designed to cover the District's costs up front, so that D.C. does not have to expend local funds for Federal purposes and seek an appropriation to be reimbursed after the fact.

Over the last several years, our Republican colleagues have opposed fully funding the D.C. Fund. The January 6 insurrection shows Congress must never shortchange security in the Nation's Capitol again.

I also appreciate that the appropriations bill would mirror two of my bills.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

Ms. NORTON. I also appreciate that the appropriations bill would mirror two of my bills, prohibiting the use of funds in the bill to install permanent aboveground fencing at the Capitol complex, and requiring Capitol Police officers to wear body cameras.

In February, I introduced legislation to prohibit funds for permanent fencing at the Capitol complex, and in March the House passed my bill to require Federal police officers to wear body

cameras as part of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up House Resolution 153, a resolution condemning the recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL), my good friend, the author of the resolution, to further explain the amendment.

Mrs. STEEL. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the previous question.

If the previous question is defeated, Republicans will amend this rule to immediately consider House Resolution 153, the condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

This bipartisan bill was the very first bill I introduced in Congress.

I am here today to condemn the recent discrimination and violence the AAPI community has experienced. I spoke on this issue yesterday, and I am proud to be standing here again today.

I was born in Korea and raised in Japan. I am living my American Dream and I am a proud American. I am honored every day to represent my community in Congress. Unfortunately, hate crime against the Asian-American community is not new. And as an American who loves this country dearly, this issue is very personal to me.

Hate crimes committed against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been on the rise since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between March and December of last year, nearly 3,000 firsthand accounts of Asian-American and Pacific Islander hate crimes were recorded in the United States. The reporting has now been updated by the group Stop AAPI Hate, and between March 2020 and March 2021, more than 6,000 hate crimes or hate incidents were reported. This includes physical assault, verbal assault, and online bullying of Asian Americans.

My home State of California makes up more than 40 percent of these incidents and crimes. It is heartbreaking to read the news stories of these crimes, and my heart goes out to all those who have been victims of this violence. That is why the first bill I introduced in Congress in February was H. Res. 153. It is the only bipartisan legislation in the House of its kind, and I am proud that it has been cosponsored by several of my Democratic colleagues, including Congressmembers

KATIE PORTER, LOU CORREA, ALAN LOWENTHAL, and MIKE LEVIN.

This resolution is very simple. It condemns all expressions of anti-Asian and Pacific Islander intolerance, and calls on Federal, State, and local officials to work together to investigate and improve reporting of these crimes.

Yesterday, I spoke about how I was disappointed that this truly bipartisan resolution was not a part of this fixed conversation, and was not being considered on the floor. But, today, we have another opportunity to show solidarity with our AAPI community and vote on my bipartisan resolution.

Discrimination and hate against any community are against the fundamental values of American cultural. Discrimination and hate have no place in this great country. Madam Speaker, I am proud that my resolution has support from both sides of the aisle, unlike the other bills on the floor today. I hope we can work together to put an end to this hate. I am asking my colleagues to vote “no” on the previous question so that I can bring my bipartisan bill condemning hate crimes against AAPI on the floor.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I reference the text of S. 937 and H. Res. 275, a bill and a resolution we are considering this week. S. 937 was passed yesterday, and right after this debate, we are going to adopt H. Res. 275. They are two pieces of legislation condemning hate crimes against Asian Americans in this country.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Ms. SHERRILL).

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3233, which creates a bipartisan independent commission to investigate the attacks on the Capitol on January 6.

Why do we need this commission?

We need this commission because the American people must understand exactly what happened so we can all forge a more resilient democracy.

We need this commission because, on January 6, I was lying on the floor to avoid possible shooters in this very Chamber, holding a gas mask in one hand and a phone in the other as I called my husband in case I didn't make it home.

We need this commission because, despite our own experiences, despite video footage, despite testimony by police, it has been suggested that this was simply a normal tourist event. Well, we have a lot of tourism where I am from. People visit our beautiful shore and historic sights, and no tourist event I have ever seen looks like that day.

As The New York Times reported: The pure savagery of the mob was breathtaking, as cataloged by injuries inflicted. One police officer lost an eye; another, the tip of his finger. Still another was shocked so many times with a taser gun that he had a heart attack.

Madam Speaker, we need this commission.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGO).

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, when I joined the Marine Corps, the most sacred part of my oath was to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. I took that oath again when I was sworn into office as a Member of Congress. I never thought I would have to defend this oath against domestic enemies on the floor of Congress—but on January 6, I did.

Democracy is fragile. We have seen it across the world: When leaders cower in the face of an attack on democracy, it can be lost. Let's be clear: Democracy itself was violently attacked on January 6. If we don't stand up for it, it will happen again. If we don't tell the truth about what happened on January 6, it will happen again. If we don't have swift and harsh accountability for everyone involved in January 6, it will happen again.

If all of us don't stand up to traitors and cowards in defense of our Constitution, January 6 will happen again. That is why all of us have an obligation today to defend our democracy and support the creation of a national commission to investigate the January 6 attack, because it can never be allowed to happen again.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a statement from the family of United States Capitol Officer Howie Liebengood, who died by suicide. His death was a direct result of the trauma and strain from the January 6 attack.

Madam Speaker, in the statement, the family of Officer Liebengood states: “We believe a thorough, non-partisan investigation into the root causes of and the response to the January 6 riot is essential for our Nation to move forward. Howie's death was an immediate outgrowth of those events.”

LIEBENGOD FAMILY STATEMENT ON THE JANUARY 6TH COMMISSION AND SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL

FAMILY OF FALLEN USCP OFFICER HOWIE LIEBENGOD CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PASS BOTH PIECES OF LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, the Office of Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton (D-VA) released the following statement from the family of United States Capitol Police Officer Howie Liebengood regarding the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act and the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act.

“We believe a thorough, non-partisan investigation into the root causes of and the response to the January 6th riot is essential for our nation to move forward. Howie's death was an immediate outgrowth of those events. Every officer who worked that day, as well as their families, should have a bet-

ter understanding of what happened. Uncovering the facts will help our nation heal and may lessen the lingering emotional bitterness that has divided our country. We implore Congress to work as one and establish the proposed Commission.

“Additionally, improved mental health for USCP officers has been one of our goals for the past four months. Through the tireless efforts of Congresswoman Wexton, we are honored a wellness program bearing Howie's name has been proposed in the security supplemental along with more resources for the program. We welcome and support the new funding and staffing initiatives that will help prevent future tragedies among the USCP.”

Howie C. Liebengood grew up and lived in Vienna, Virginia and was Congresswoman Wexton's constituent. He was raised in the Capitol Hill community, where his father, Howard S. Liebengood, served for decades as a Hill staffer and later the Senate Sergeant at Arms. Howie received a Bachelor's Degree at Purdue University, a Master's Degree at the University of Memphis, and started a career as a race car driver in the 1990s. Howie joined the Capitol Police in 2005 and served as an officer for 15 years. He was assigned to the Senate division and often worked at the Delaware entrance of the Russell Senate Office Building. Howie took his life on January 9, and his death was a direct result of the trauma and strain from the January 6th attack on the Capitol and the around-the-clock shifts in the subsequent days. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Serena McClam Liebengood, his siblings, John Liebengood and Anne Winters, and many family and friends who loved him dearly.

Following Howie's death, Dr. Liebengood and Howie's family have been advocating [iqconnect.house.gov] to have Howie's death designated “in the line of duty;” to support much needed USCP reforms; and to promote positive change around mental health issues for his fellow law enforcement officers, both with the Capitol Police and with law enforcement agencies generally.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN).

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, there is hardly anything this Congress can do that will be more important than having a bipartisan commission to look at the insurrection that occurred in this Capitol on January 6. There was an attempt to overturn our Constitution and to displace the electoral college and the peaceful transition of power that makes our country unique and special among the countries of the world.

This wouldn't have happened but for the President at the time telling people to come to Washington on January 6—no other date but the day of the electoral college—to fight like hell or you won't have a government anymore and telling them he would walk with them to the Capitol and told them where to go.

This cannot happen again. If we don't have this commission and reveal the truth, it will happen again. There is only one reason you wouldn't vote for this, Madam Speaker: if you can't handle the truth. Get the truth out.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a May 19 letter

from the Bipartisan Policy Center in support of H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

In the letter, the cochairs of the 9/11 Commission, Governor Tom Kean and Representative Lee Hamilton state: "A full accounting of the events of January 6 and the identification of measures to strengthen the Congress can help our country heal."

[From BPC Action]

BPC ACTION URGES SUPPORT FOR H.R. 3233

H.R. 3233, the "National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act," is a crucial step for the country to get the truth of those shocking events and agree on how to ensure they never occur again. The Bipartisan Policy Center is encouraged that the agreement reflects the principles of 9-11 Commission chairs Gov. Tom Kean and Rep. Lee Hamilton, who stated, "A full accounting of the events of January 6th and the identification of measures to strengthen the Congress can help our country heal."

A single narrative of the facts of that day and actionable recommendations for preventing them from recurring are the predicate for ensuring our democracy is respected and protected. This bipartisan, independent commission is structured so experts will be empowered to objectively assess the evidence and chart a path forward.

In this midst of opportunity for growth and healing, it is crucial that we reflect on our history: the strength of the 9/11 commission was that it was bipartisan and unified by the imperative of national security. Twenty years later, we are reminded of the security challenges this nation faces, and we must come together in the same way we did following 9/11.

We applaud the House and Senate committees and law enforcement investigations that have laid groundwork for an independent commission to begin its work—and House and Senate leaders, especially Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON and Ranking Member JOHN KATKO, for creating a process that has a real chance for success. We urge Congress to support H.R. 3233.

[From Issue One]

JOINT STATEMENT FROM GOVERNOR TOM KEAN AND CONGRESSMAN LEE HAMILTON, CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION

"We very strongly urge House Members to support H.R. 3233, the bipartisan National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex. That bill would create a 9/11 style commission to investigate the January 6th assault on the U.S. Capitol. That was a dark day in American history, one of the darkest.

"As Chairman and Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission, unity of purpose was key to the effectiveness of the group. We put country above party, without bias, the events before, during and after the attack. We sought to understand our vulnerabilities in order to prevent future attacks or future acts of terrorism.

"Today, democracy faces a new threat. The January 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol was one of the darkest days in the history of our country. Americans deserve an objective and an accurate account of what happened. As we did in the wake of September 11, it's time to set aside partisan politics and come together as Americans in common pursuit of truth and justice."

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from

Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), who is the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 409, which allows for the debate on H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act. After months of negotiations, last week I was pleased to introduce this measure with the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO).

Back in 2007, I was proud to be the lead sponsor of legislation to implement the unfulfilled recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. I can say with certainty, at that time, I could never have imagined that I would be standing here today, almost 15 years later, advocating for the establishment of a 9/11-style commission to investigate a violent domestic attack on the United States Capitol.

On January 6, the world watched Americans storm the Capitol and engage in violence to try to intimidate and prevent Congress from carrying out its constitutional duty to certify a Presidential election, a solemn process central to the peaceful transfer of power in our democracy.

Like the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the events of January 6 have cast a long shadow on our country. Like the 9/11 terrorist attacks, it has raised fundamental questions about information-sharing, coordination, preparedness, and response at all levels of government.

When the defenses around the citadel of our democracy fail as profoundly as they did on January 6, then attention must be paid. At least one Capitol Police Officer died because of the cause of the violence that day. Others died too, and injuries were extensive also—not the least of which is the body blow of Americans' confidence that the reforms undertaken after 9/11 would deliver better information-sharing and coordination to keep us secure.

H.R. 3233 authorizes the establishment of a 10-member commission that mirrors the 9/11 Commission, the gold standard for bipartisan commissions. The January 6 Commission would be required to investigate and report on all the facts and causes of the attack including relevant influencing factors that may have contributed to the attack.

Given how politically charged the events of January 6 have become, we need to come together in a patriotic, bipartisan way and approve this independent body, just as we did when we approved the creation of the 9/11 Commission. The 9/11 Commission acted not out of partisanship, but out of patriotism. We need that same sense of duty today. Apathy is not a security strategy, and neither are ignorance or willful disregard.

After such a shocking attack, nothing short of a full accounting of what took place will put us on the path to improving our homeland security.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, the distinguished chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, for his excellent work on this bill; and I want to thank his ranking member and negotiating partner. I think they, frankly, moved us in the right direction toward agreement.

We continue to have concerns. It is a long, legislative process. Obviously, we will have to pass something through the Senate as well. So it is my hope we can build upon their work and continue to move forward.

We are not prepared at this time to provide huge support for this bill. We think it can continue to improve. But that doesn't take anything away from my appreciation and admiration for the gentleman from Mississippi for his good work. We will continue to try and work with him and others and get to a place we can all come to agree.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, let's be clear that opposition to this commission is not about substance or policy; it really is about politics, plain and simple. At least, my Republican colleagues in the Senate side are willing to admit that. Senator THUNE said that there is concern among Republicans that the findings could be "weaponized politically and drug into next year."

I get that his members want to "be moving forward and not looking backward," but this was an attack on the United States Capitol, and all the people who work here. It was an attack on our democracy.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a CNN article entitled "Republicans fear January 6 probe could undercut 2022 midterm message."

[From CNN, May 19, 2021]

REPUBLICANS FEAR JANUARY 6 PROBE COULD UNDERCUT 2022 MIDTERM MESSAGE

(By Manu Raju)

Senior Republicans are making clear they have little interest in moving forward with a sweeping January 6 investigation in part because a detailed probe could become politically damaging and amount to a distraction for their party just as control of Congress is at stake in next year's midterm elections.

Publicly and privately, Republicans are making that case, with Senate GOP Whip John Thune noting that there's concern among some GOP members that the findings of the probe "could be weaponized politically and drug into next year." "I want our midterm message to be on the kinds of things that the American people are dealing with: That's jobs and wages and the economy and national security, safe streets and strong borders—not relitigating the 2020 elections," Thune told CNN. "A lot of our members, and I think this is true of a lot of House Republicans, want to be moving forward and not looking backward. Anything that gets us rehashing the 2020 elections I think is a day lost on being able to draw a contrast between us the Democrats' very radical left-wing agenda."

Thune's comments came moments after Senate GOP Leader Mitch McConnell announced his opposition on the floor, contending it would duplicate ongoing probes

and contending the deal—which was reached between a House Republican and House Democrat—is designed to find a conclusion that would be in “Democrats’ hands.” The commission would be structured so 10 members—chosen equally between the leaders from both political parties—could report by year’s end on what happened on January 6, as well as the “influencing factors” behind it.

It’s clear that such an investigation would also look at then-President Donald Trump’s role in promoting the January 6 “Stop the Steal” rally, his lies that the election was stolen and his efforts to subvert the will of voters. Moreover, it could put an uncomfortable focus on some conservative GOP senators and House members who sought to overturn the election results in Congress, while keeping the issue front-and-center as the investigation plays out over the next year.

And there are ample questions about whether House GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy would be forced to testify to explain what Trump was saying on January 6 given the two spoke during a heated phone call that day.

“It would be a distraction,” one senior GOP source told CNN, arguing any investigation should also look at left-wing extremism as well.

Similar concerns were voiced through the Senate Republican Conference on Wednesday, coming hours after a group of members huddled privately with McCarthy earlier in the morning.

Sen. John Cornyn, a Texas Republican and member of leadership, said that in addition to his concern about a commission’s work overlapping with criminal probes, he accused House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of pushing the investigation to help Democrats’ chances at keeping control of Congress.

“Well, part of the concern is that’s the plan,” Cornyn said. “That’s Pelosi’s plan.” If the probe dragged out until the next year, he added: “That would be the Democrats’ dream. . . . I generally don’t try to help Democrats.”

While the bill is expected to pass the House on Wednesday, it’s an open question whether it will pass the Senate, where 60 votes would be needed to break a GOP filibuster.

Thune, the chief GOP vote counter, said they haven’t taken the caucus’ temperature yet on the plan.

“I would say that there’s a skepticism about what’s happening in the House right now and whether or not what comes out is a proposal that will be fair.”

Sen. Gary Peters, who chairs the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, said there’s a reason why Republicans are battling the commission.

“They’re afraid of the truth because it puts them on the wrong side of what is right,” Peters, a Michigan Democrat, said Wednesday.

Asked if he is concerned the probe could last into the midterm season when the GOP wants to focus on jobs, Republican Sen. Thom Tillis of North Carolina said: “There’s a lot of stuff we need to focus on.”

“Why shift our attention away from that, when we already have an infrastructure in place to address a lot of the things that the commission seems to be stood up to address,” Tillis asked. “Seems redundant.”

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of truth and justice. The chairman and the ranking member are two honorable men. We all can see this, Madam Speaker, and I am happy about that.

That attack was born of lies. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the worst external terrorist attack in our modern history. The gravest attack ever on American democracy came 133 days ago. That attack was born of lies. It was born about the voting, about elections, and about our democracy. These lies divided our country. They spread across our land like a plague.

On December 11, I warned on this floor of elected officials across this Nation amplifying big lies. On January 6, the world saw the result. Like the 9/11 Commission it is modeled after, this commission must hold allegiance only to the truth. A full investigation of this attack must reflect on how the spark of insurrection was ignited and who fanned the flames. It is our sacred duty, Madam Speaker.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT).

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the underlying bills. January 6 was an unprecedented event that exposed the real threat to the beating heart of our democracy: our Capitol and all of us who work in it.

Shortly after the insurrection, I expressed the need to form a 9/11-style commission, not only to get to the bottom of this and who was responsible for it, but also to ensure that it never happens again. This is exactly what these bills do, Madam Speaker.

The security of our Capitol and our democracy is not a partisan issue. However, the other side of the aisle has attempted to turn this into a sideshow, Madam Speaker, into a circus. I submit to you that the attempted murder of our Vice President, the attempted murder of our Speaker, and the attempted murder of any one of us is not a sideshow, it is not a circus, it is a real threat to everyone across this great land.

Taken together, these two critical bills will help us finally recover from the January 6 insurrection. We must ensure that these sacred Halls will never again be overrun by racist thugs against our democracy.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the rule and the establishment of a national commission to study the events of January 6, 2021. The January 6 insurrection was a violent and bloody attack on our democracy. Domestic terrorists stormed this building. They did so in order to stop the peaceful transition of power and to keep Donald Trump in office, even after he lost the 2020 election fair and square.

We have never seen this type of attack before in this country. I pray we never will again. That is why we need

to establish a national commission to understand how this happened, to gather all the facts surrounding these events, and, most importantly, to ensure it never happens again.

I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for working across the aisle to establish this bipartisan commission. The people who took part in this insurrection caused great damage to this building, dozens of people were injured, and five people lost their lives. But despite the horror of that day, our democracy endured.

This commission will allow us to understand how this happened and how we prevent it and gather all the facts. The search for truth matters. Protecting our democracy matters. This should be a bipartisan vote to strongly support the work of this commission.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am having trouble trying to figure out exactly what the problem that some of my Republican colleagues may have with this bill. Maybe, based on the lack of speakers, they are having trouble figuring it out too.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), who is a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the rule and underlying bills before us today.

It has been over 4 months since the attack on the Capitol, an attack which disrupted a joint session of Congress and threatened one of the most essential pillars of our American Government: the peaceful and democratic transfer of power. That lawless assault threatened not just the foundations of our government, but also the lives of those who served their fellow citizens here. That assault shattered the illusion of security and sanctity of this building, the United States Capitol.

We remain eternally grateful for the bravery and patriotism of the members of the U.S. Capitol and D.C. Metropolitan Police who heroically defended this building, its occupants, and our democracy.

But it is long past time to launch an independent, bipartisan examination of what occurred on January 6, why it occurred, and how to prevent it from ever happening again. We need a commission with the power and authority to collect evidence and make recommendations across multiple agencies, committees, and branches of government impacted by the attack.

Almost as soon as the tear gas and broken glass had been cleared in the wee hours of January 7, we began hearing calls for unity. But what has remained illusive is a shared set of facts behind which the Nation can unify and forge a path to healing and accountability for the events of January 6. That path starts with these bills.

We cannot repair the damage to our government and the rule of law so long

as we have national leaders or those who seek to be propagating lies about why our government was attacked and the gravity of the events of January 6. Those falsehoods are incredibly dangerous, and so long as they remain unchallenged by a bipartisan, independent commission, we are never going to get past the dark part of our history.

In addition to creating this bipartisan commission, we also need to pass the emergency supplemental appropriations bill to fund the many additional expenses which were created by the Capitol attack, including overtime, staffing, training for law enforcement, reimbursing the National Guard, and so much more.

I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for this rule.

□ 1330

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

I was here on 9/11, and I could see the billowing smoke as we ran for our lives as the planes were hitting the Pentagon and the aftermath.

I was here on January 6 when screaming voices came and glass began to break, as the video has shown us, the video of the beatings. My tribute to all the officers—we have heard the story of Officer Fanone.

All we want is truth, and all we want is for the big lie to be undone.

It is important to support H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex, and the underlying emergency supplemental that General Honore and his committee so aptly did.

I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for their hard work. Be reminded of the fact that it was the former President still lingering, lashing around instead of allowing the transfer of peaceful government to go. He is now pushing big lies.

I wanted the Vice President to live. I wanted the Speaker to live. I wanted Members to live. I wanted Black officers not to be under the threat of racist overtones. So this commission will listen to it all.

I ask my colleagues to get rid of the big lie, stand by the Constitution, the flag, and justice and equality for all. Pass H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex Act.

Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Homeland Security, and Terrorism, and a senior member of the Homeland Security, and Budget Committees, I rise in strong support of the rule governing debate of H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act of 2021, and H.R. 3233, the National

Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex.

H.R. 3237 provides \$1.9 billion in funding to respond to the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021, when thousands of domestic terrorists inspired by the 45th President stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent, crazed, and desperate effort to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress prescribed by the Constitution to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world.

H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex Act, which establishes a national commission charged with investigating and reporting upon the facts and causes of the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol as well as the influencing factors that may have provoked the attack on our democracy.

Specifically, the January 6 Commission's mandate includes:

1. examining and evaluating evidence developed by relevant Federal, State, and local governments, in a manner that is respectful of ongoing investigations, regarding the facts and circumstances of the attack;

2. building upon other investigations regarding the attack and targeted violence and domestic terrorism related to such attack; and

3. reporting to the President and Congress regarding its findings, conclusions, and recommendations for corrective measures taken to prevent future acts of targeted violence and domestic terrorism and improves the security posture of the United States Capitol Complex in a manner that preserves the accessibility of the Capitol Complex for all Americans, and strengthen the security and resilience of nation and American democratic institutions against domestic terrorism.

Like September 11, 2001, we cannot and must not ever forget the existential threat faced by our democracy on January 6, 2021, when thousands of domestic terrorists inspired by the 45th President stormed the U.S. Capitol in a violent, crazed, and desperate effort to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress prescribed by the Constitution to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world.

Mr. Speaker, the morning of September 11, 2001 is, and will always be, a day like no other.

It is a day all living Americans will remember because not since Pearl Harbor had there been such a dastardly and deadly attack on American soil.

On that day, we were united in our shock and anger and sadness and in our resolve to defend our country and protect the freedoms that has made America the greatest country in the history of the world.

I experienced the same gamut of emotions on January 6: grief, hope, resolve, and fierce commitment to protect our country.

Mr. Speaker, the assault on the U.S. Capitol by domestic terrorists and insurrectionists rightly takes its place as one of the darkest moments in our nation's history since the Civil War.

Mr. Speaker, the January 6 insurrection caused tragic loss of life and injuries, while leaving behind widespread physical damage to the Capitol Complex and emotional trauma to Members, Congressional employees, and the Capitol Police.

It bears repeating often that the Congress and the nation owe undying gratitude to the

men and women who answered the call of constitutional duty and heroically won the day on that bloody and deadly afternoon.

That is why I introduced H. Res. 169, a resolution commending the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other law enforcement personnel for their selfless and heroic service in defense of American democracy in responding to the assault on the United States Capitol by domestic terrorists on January 6, 2021.

H. Res. 169 notes that the January 6, 2021 siege of the Capitol assault resulted in one of the worst days of injuries for law enforcement in the United States since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks but that the officers of the United States Capitol Police Department, the Metropolitan Police Department of Washington, DC, and other uniformed law enforcement officers stood their ground in defense of American democracy while being attacked metal pipes, discharged chemical irritants, and other weapons.

The resolution conveys the thanks and appreciation of a grateful nation to them for their selfless and heroic service, encourages all educational and media institutions throughout the United States to teach and celebrate the story of their heroism and patriotism; and calls upon all Americans to read, celebrate, and revere the Constitution of the United States, fidelity to which is the surest best means of forming a more perfect union, establishing justice, ensuring domestic tranquility, providing for the common defense, promoting the general welfare, and securing the blessing of liberty to them and their posterity.

Mr. Speaker, the domestic terrorists and seditionists who attacked the Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were not, as some of their ardent defenders and apologists across the aisle have stated falsely, on a "normal tour visit"; nor was their effort to lay siege to the Capitol and disrupt the processes of government an act of persons who love their country.

And it is absurd to suggest that it was a celebration of the United States and what it stands for when the leading edge of terrorists desecrated the Capitol by offensively parading the treasonous Confederate flag through the building and when, because of their insurrection, several members of law enforcement made the supreme sacrifice and scores more were seriously injured.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a few moments to explain why the intended purpose of the January 6 insurrection—to disrupt the Joint Meeting of Congress to tally the votes of presidential electors and announce the results to the nation and the world—was the greatest threat to the American Experiment since the Civil War when the proslavery forces would rather make war than let the nation survive and the pro-freedom forces would accept war rather than let the nation perish.

The Framers understood and declared to the world that democratic governors derived their powers from the knowing and voluntary consent of the governed as expressed in free, fair, and unfettered elections unmarred by the influence or sabotage of any foreign country or entity not a member of the political community.

The most important feature of a democracy is that it is the voters who alone can confer the legitimate consent and authorization necessary to govern upon the governors who are then duty-bound to represent the voters' interests, and only their interests.

Mr. Speaker, the fundamental democratic compact between the governed and the governors is that the latter's authority and continuance in office comes exclusively from the governed and allegiance is owed exclusively to the governed.

This agreement can only be reached through free and fair elections, a breach of which threatens the vitality and viability of the social contract upon which democratic self-rule of, by, and for the people depends.

Mr. Speaker, President Lincoln called the United States the "last best hope of man on earth" and stated at Gettysburg the importance of finishing the work we are in to ensure that "government of the people, for the people, by the people does not perish from the earth."

By our actions in voting to establish and empower a National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the Capitol Complex, we are taking an indispensable step in ensuring the preservation of our democracy, which has been the envy of the world for more than 240 years.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in voting for the rule and the underlying legislation, H.R. 3237, the Emergency Security Supplemental to Respond to January 6th Appropriations Act of 2021, and H.R. 3233, the National Commission to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the United States Capitol Complex.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining for us on both sides.

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CICILLINE). The gentleman from Massachusetts has 6½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oklahoma has 17½ minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members here today to read today's Washington Post editorial questioning Leader MCCARTHY's political courage in opposing this bill and calling for him to testify under oath about his eyewitness experience of the violence and former President Trump's apparent indifference to it.

The editorial also criticizes his false equivalence of Black Lives Matter protests to the Capitol invasion and his minimization of the insurrection's significance, which only encourages the lies on which it is based.

I include that article in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, May 18, 2021]

OPINION: KEVIN MCCARTHY PLUMBS NEW DEPTHS OF POLITICAL COWARDICE

(Opinion by the Editorial Board)

Democratic and Republican negotiators agreed last week to create a high-level, expert commission with subpoena power to conduct an examination of the Jan. 6 Capitol invasion, one of the lowest moments in U.S. history. But House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) on Tuesday threw his negotiators under the bus, condemning the compromise and vowing to oppose the bill creating the commission when it comes to a House vote Wednesday.

Many Republicans do not want an impartial panel to remind the public of their party's role in the event. A fair inquiry would examine how GOP lawmakers fed the election lies that inspired the mob, and how they

built Jan. 6, which should have featured a pro forma counting of electoral votes, into a showdown over the 2020 presidential election. Republican lawmakers who signed a spurious lawsuit seeking to overturn the results bear some guilt; those who went on to object to the counting of electoral votes from several swing states bear even more.

An honest proceeding would also require Mr. McCarthy to testify under oath about his eyewitness experience of the violence—and to then-President Donald Trump's apparent indifference. Mr. McCarthy has resisted offering the public a frank accounting of his interactions with Mr. Trump, including on a phone call during which Mr. McCarthy reportedly begged Mr. Trump to stop the mob. Mr. McCarthy has concluded that whatever political benefits he receives from embracing Mr. Trump are worth the price of his integrity.

If there are to be hearings, Mr. McCarthy argued, they should examine not only the Capitol invasion but other politically motivated violence, such as the riots surrounding the Black Lives Matter protests last summer. The point is to draw a false equivalence between a historically unique attack on the nation's seat of government, in which Mr. Trump and other Republicans are directly implicated, and crimes that left-leaning activists committed—crimes that did not occur in the halls of Congress, that did not aim to interrupt the peaceful transition of power, that did not reflect a plot to overturn a presidential election.

Mr. McCarthy knows Democrats will never endorse a panel designed to mislead the nation about Jan. 6, so his proposal for a broader mandate is a ruse: He simply does not want any investigation at all. House Democrats should nevertheless advance the compromise plan on Wednesday. Then the public will see whether there are 10 Senate Republicans willing to approve the deal. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) on Tuesday did not rule out supporting it, raising minor concerns about its structure that should be negotiable. But if Senate Republicans capitulate to the calculations driving Mr. McCarthy, House and Senate committees should use their subpoena power to conduct their own investigations, even if that means Democrats lead the inquiries without Republican cooperation.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, the January 6 insurrection against our Congress, our Constitution, and our election was one of the worst political crimes in American history.

It interrupted the peaceful transfer of power. It injured, wounded, hospitalized more than 140 law enforcement officials who were punched, kicked, maced, spat upon, and speared by Confederate battle flags, Donald Trump flags, American flags. They had eyes gouged. One lost several fingers.

They turned the Capitol of the United States and this Chamber into a crime scene.

The independent January 6 commission legislation brought forth by Chairman THOMPSON, a Democrat, and Congressman KATKO, a Republican, is bipartisan in composition: five Republicans and five Democrats, equal subpoena power. It is nonpartisan in design and in function.

Its whole purpose is to determine the events and the causes of those events

on January 6 so we can prepare effectively to stop it from ever happening again to the people of America.

The key precedent was the 9/11 Commission, which was critical for mobilizing public attention to the dangers of al-Qaida and other foreign terror networks and helping us to rectify inadequacies in our security infrastructure and to prepare to defend our democracy.

Today, the number one security threat facing the American people is domestic violent extremism, and we saw what domestic violent extremism can do when it broke into our House on January 6.

According to the Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro Mayorkas: "Domestic violent extremism poses the most lethal and persistent terrorism-related threat to our country today."

Abraham Lincoln made a beautiful speech that I recommend to all of my colleagues before they vote on this legislation today, the Lyceum Address, where he said all the armies of Europe, all the armies of Africa and Asia, could never conquer American democracy. But if there is a mortal threat to us, it will come from within, from dissension within, and threats to the constitutional order from within.

We must pay attention to what happened on January 6, and we must honor those brave men and women who fought for hours against medieval-style waves of violence raining down upon them on that day. And we must do honor to future generations of Americans to find out exactly what happened and why, and how to stop it in the future.

Let's pass this legislation today.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I oppose the rule. The majority is proposing two significant pieces of legislation today. Unfortunately, concerns remain with both of them.

H.R. 3237, the supplemental appropriations package intended to provide funds for the security of the Capitol complex is, unfortunately and unnecessarily, a partisan bill.

It was the subject of bipartisan negotiations, and there is no reason we could not have gotten to a bipartisan result had the majority wanted to do so. Instead, we are left with a partisan package that does not meet the needs of the institution and, frankly, has no chance of becoming law in its current form.

I would urge my friends particularly to look at the section relating to the rapid response force. That is something where I think, honestly, with a little bit more reflection, we could find some common ground.

I think it is a mistake to put a force like that under the control of either the District of Columbia or the executive branch. I think we need direct control of that ourselves. I know some of my colleagues on the other side feel strongly that way, too. It simply

makes sense that if we are having a crisis here, we ought to make the decision if we need an extra force.

I think if we keep working at it, we are going to find some common ground there, and I hope that we do.

H.R. 3233 establishes a commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the Capitol complex. Here, too, I want to acknowledge that real progress was made in the course of negotiations, and I want to commend particularly Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO for having brought us closer to agreement.

However, on our side, many of us continue to have reservations about this bill and the parameters of the commission itself. After all, the events of January 6 did not occur in a vacuum. If we truly hope to find answers for the American people, then we must take into account everything, all the other political violence that has taken place in recent years.

I would just ask my friends to go back—and I know they have—and look at the 9/11 Commission, which did exactly that. It didn't just look at 9/11. It looked at the attack on the USS *Cole*. It went back to the attack on the African Embassies that we experienced.

There is room here, I think, for context and additional discussion. We also have concerns structurally with some of the staffing provisions and other items that I have mentioned that we hopefully would look at. We would like to continue to work on that.

I think we could have made good progress had any of the amendments that were offered in the Rules Committee been made in order. My friends chose not to do that. That is their privilege to do so, but I think it probably obstructed what could have been a larger bipartisan vote for this particular piece of legislation.

But, again, we will see going forward. What we do here isn't the final arbiter. This is one stage in the process. The United States Senate is the next stop. Hopefully, there will be some changes made there. Then, it will have to come back here. We should look at both of these matters as stops in a journey, or parts of a journey, not as the final decision on any of them.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the previous question and "no" on the rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply disappointed that any of my Republican colleagues would oppose the creation of this commission. There is a lot of talk all the time about the need for bipartisanship, and that is what we have here. This is true bipartisanship.

The distinguished minority leader sent a letter to Speaker PELOSI asking for an equal 5:5 ratio in appointments by Democrats and Republicans on this commission. He got it.

He asked for coequal subpoena power. He got it.

He asked for no inclusion of findings or other predetermined conclusions which ultimately should be rendered by the commission itself. He got it.

Now, maybe the gentleman didn't think he would, but Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member KATKO, who was appointed by the minority leader to negotiate on behalf of the Republicans, came to a deal, a genuinely bipartisan deal to look into the horrific acts of what happened in this Chamber on January 6.

I was here that day. They were not ordinary tourists who came in here. My colleagues on the Republican side who are here today, there are pictures of them helping to barricade the doors. They know exactly what happened on January 6.

Those people who attacked the Capitol were not here to make a political point. They were here to desecrate this building and hurt people.

We, as Members of Congress, signed up for this job. But I want Members to vote for this commission, not because of us, but because of the people who work here, our staff, the support staff, the Capitol Police, the people who work in our cafeterias, the people who maintain this building. They were traumatized by what happened here.

Our response to all of this is: Well, let's move on. Let's not do this, in spite of a truly bipartisan negotiation and a bipartisan commission.

This is so disappointing. I mean, don't talk to us about bipartisanship, and then when you get it, you turn your back on it.

Madam Speaker, I am sick and tired of those who want to hover around mistruths and lies and spread conspiracy theories. What happened 133 days ago can never be normalized. We all have to speak the truth, and we must act to prevent it from ever happening again. That starts with not only passing this rule but passing this bipartisan bill to establish a bipartisan commission to produce a report for the American people so that we know clearly and credibly as to what happened and that we can take additional actions to make sure it never happens again.

As I said in my opening, vote for this out of respect for this institution, out of respect for our democracy, out of respect for the truth, out of respect for the people who work for you, who come here every day and work for you. We owe it to them and to this country to move forward.

The material previously referred to by Mr. COLE is as follows:

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 409

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 3. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the resolution (H. Res. 153) condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders. The resolution shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without inter-

vening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary.

SEC. 4. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H. Res. 153.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

□ 1345

CONDEMNING THE HORRIFIC SHOOTINGS IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ON MARCH 16, 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 275) condemning the horrific shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 16, 2021, and reaffirming the House of Representative's commitment to combating hate, bigotry, and violence against the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 245, nays 180, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 149]

YEAS—245

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Adams | Casten | Deutch |
| Aguilar | Castor (FL) | Dingell |
| Allred | Castro (TX) | Doggett |
| Amodel | Chabot | Doyle, Michael |
| Auchincloss | Chu | F. |
| Axne | Cicilline | Escobar |
| Bacon | Clark (MA) | Eshoo |
| Barragán | Clarke (NY) | Espallat |
| Bass | Cleaver | Evans |
| Beatty | Clyburn | Fitzpatrick |
| Bera | Cohen | Fletcher |
| Beyer | Connolly | Fortenberry |
| Bice (OK) | Cooper | Foster |
| Bishop (GA) | Correa | Frankel, Lois |
| Blumenauer | Costa | Gallego |
| Blunt | Courtney | Garamendi |
| Bonamici | Craig | Garbarino |
| Bourdeaux | Crist | Gonzalez, |
| Bowman | Crow | Garcia (TX) |
| Boyle, Brendan | Cuellar | Gomez |
| F. | Curtis | Gonzales, Tony |
| Brown | Davids (KS) | Gonzalez (OH) |
| Brownley | Davis, Danny K. | Gonzalez, |
| Bush | Davis, Rodney | Vicente |
| Bustos | Dean | Gottheimer |
| Butterfield | DeFazio | Green, Al (TX) |
| Carbajal | DeGette | Grijalva |
| Cárdenas | DeLauro | Harder (CA) |
| Carson | DelBene | Hayes |
| Carter (LA) | Delgado | Herrera Beutler |
| Cartwright | Demings | Higgins (NY) |
| Case | DeSaulnier | Himes |